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Approved For Release 2004/10/27 : CIA-RDP79M00096A000400040006-3

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C O I N S
COMMUNITY
ON-LINE
INTELLIGENCE
SYSTEM

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VI. RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the results of this study, the Review Group recommends the following:

1. The DCI direct that an aggressive program of automated information exchange be undertaken.

2. To implement the above, the Review Group proposes that [] be appointed the COINS executive agent under the auspices of the DCI with the COINS Project Management Office (PMO) made responsible to the executive agency.

3. COINS funding be continued, subject to stipulations included below.

4. The USIB Security Committee and its Computer Security Subcommittee address the multi-level security problem with an eye toward immediate interim solution. This Review Group suggests that pending the attainment of a true multi-level security capability, the most practical course of action is:

- a. to upgrade the entire COINS System to TK;
- b. to handle Gamma and other compartmented data on a case-by-case basis with dedicated lines and terminals;
- c. to handle extremely time-sensitive event data on a case-by-case basis with dedicated lines and terminals.

5. The COINS data base be purged of files for which little or no interest has been demonstrated, and other available non-COINS machine files for which interest has been expressed should be included in COINS as quickly as possible. A complete listing of file suggestions, including additions, modifications, and new files to be added is included as Attachement B.

6. Present COINS reporting procedures be modified to allow the collection of statistics more amenable to permitting evaluation of system usage, timeliness, and effectiveness. The COINS project manager should be directed to submit a plan for statistical reporting which would (a) identify the objectives of such reporting (i.e. what must be learned about the system), (b) the items of data to be collected to satisfy the objectives, and (c) the analysis to be performed on the data to provide the desired information.

7. The COINS Project Manager and each participating organization take appropriate steps to accelerate and expand the program to train, inform, and motivate both users and potential users.

8. The COINS PMO submit a detailed plan for an upgraded system which will address the weaknesses noted in Section V in a cost-effective manner. Specifically to be addressed are means to eliminate the switch, provide interactive capability to all users, and the inclusion of world-wide user hosts and participants.

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Advantages:

- o Eliminates a Single Point of Failure (Switch)
- o Saves \$160,000. Rental per year (each switch)
- o Increased Throughput
- o Interactive Capability added

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All Networks Feature:

- o Packet Communications
- o Nodal Communications Computers, Interfacing to Host Computers
- o Dual Communication Paths
- o (Capability of) Terminals Independent of Host Computers

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CURRENT ACTIONS

I. COMMUNICATION NETTING GROUP (AD HOC)

Report due 10 July 1973.
Expect 60-90 days for formal coordination
Implement Phase I (Specification) while plan as being
coordinated. (5 months).

II. TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN - COINS II

.SUB SYSTEMS

Communications (CNG)
Security
Network Monitoring
Management Information
Retrieval Language
File Processors

.IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

.RESOURCES REQUIRED

III. DEVELOPING RDT&E COMPUTER SECURITY PROGRAM FOR COINS II.

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PROBLEM AREAS

MANAGEMENT

- INTERFACE OF COINS TO IDHS & WWMCCS

PPB

- NEED PPB SYSTEM FOR COMMUNITY-WIDE PROJECT (e.g., COINS)
- NEED TO ESTABLISH PROGRAM ELEMENT FOR COINS II

BUDGET

- NO COINS II FUNDS IN FY-74 OR FY-75

COMMUNITY DATA STANDARDS

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REF ID: A6730637

STATUS REPORT ON APPROVED RECOMMENDATIONS
FROM
COINS PROJECT MANAGER

1. The DCI direct that an aggressive program of automated information exchange be undertaken.

STATUS: The DCI has taken a number of actions which have improved the COINS situation in the community, specifically:

a. Approved the introduction of TK information into COINS on 1 May 1973.

b. Directed the establishment of a COINS Data Base Working Group which is chaired by ASD(I) but operates under the auspices of the DCI.

2. To implement the above, the Review Group proposed that [redacted] be appointed the COINS executive agent under the auspices of the DCI with the COINS Project Management Office (PMO) made responsible to the executive agency.

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STATUS:

a. The DCI has appointed [redacted] Agent for COINS with the understanding that the COINS PMO [redacted] and its staffing may be community wide.

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[redacted]
Manager is preparing a request to augment PMO staff with 9-12 additional billets and people from the community. Initial indications are that these people would be used to further staff:

- Users Support Group (1 each from CIA/NPIC/DIA)
- Quality Assurance Group (1 each from CIA, NPIC, DIA)

3. COINS funding be continued, subject to stipulations included below, (i.e., in Recommendation 4 thru 8).

STATUS:

a. There are no funds specifically programmed for the upgrade of COINS in FY-74 and FY-75.

b. Preliminary estimates are that somewhere between 2.5 - 3.0M will be required in FY-74 to get the show on the road.

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ATTACHMENT C

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4. The USIB Security Committee and its Computer Security Subcommittee address the multi-level security problem with an eye toward immediate interim solution. This Review Group suggests that pending the attainment of a true multi-level security capability, the most practical course of action is:

a. To upgrade the entire COINS System to TK:

STATUS: The DCI has approved this recommendation and TK files are now being handled within the COINS network.

b. To handle Gamma and other compartmented data on a case-by-case basis with dedicated lines and terminals:



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c. To handle extremely time-sensitive event data on a case-by-case basis with dedicated lines and terminals.

STATUS: "Extremely time-sensitive data" can not be handled in COINS until the network is upgraded (i.e., restructuring of the communications facilities and upgrading to interactive systems.).

5. The COINS data base be purged of files for which little or no interest has been demonstrated, and other available non-COINS machine files for which interest has been expressed should be included in COINS as quickly as possible. A complete listing of file suggestions, including additions, modifications, and new files to be added is included as Attachment B.

STATUS: The COINS Data Base Working Group is a community-wide group established by the DCI to review data bases for COINS. This group is chaired by ASD(I). Several data bases have already been identified by this Group for inclusion in COINS in the near future. Additional funds may be required in FY-74 to acquire storage facilities to accommodate additional data bases.

6. Present COINS reporting procedures be modified to allow the collection of statistics more amenable to permitting evaluation of system usage, timeliness, and effectiveness. The COINS project manager should be directed to submit a plan for statistical reporting which would (a) identify the objectives of such reporting (i.e., what must be learned about the system), (b) the items of data to be collected to satisfy the objectives, and (c) the analysis to be performed on the data to provide the desired information.

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STATUS:

1. The statistical reporting procedures for COINS were completely revamped in January 1973 and additional improvements are being made as required. The goal is to have most of the statistical information on-line by the end of FY-74 with only a Executive Summary being published each month.

2. Procedures are being developed to measure utility of COINS, on a regular basis.

7. The COINS Project Manager and each participating organization take appropriate steps to accelerate and expand the program to train, inform, and motivate both users and potential users.

STATUS: The Project Manager has requested the COINS Sub-System Manager of each participating agency to submit a plan of what steps it will be taking to accelerate and expand the programs to train, inform and motivate users. These reports have not been received by the COINS PMO as of this date. A chief of the Users Support Group has been appointed and a program initiated to brief community personnel on now files in the system.

8. The COINS PMO submit a detailed plan for an upgraded system which will address the weaknesses noted in Section V in a cost-effective manner. Specifically to be addressed are means to eliminate the switch, provide interactive capability to all users, and the inclusion of world-wide user hosts and participants.

STATUS: The COINS PM has initiated a number of actions aimed at developing a detailed plan to upgrade COINS.

a. Establish a Joint COINS/IDHS Computer Netting Group to develop a plan by 30 June 1973 to restructure the communications facilities associated with COINS which when implemented will:

- (1) Eliminate the switch
- (2) Accomodate interactive systems.

b. Developing RDT&E Computer Security Program for COINS which will be circulated this summer.

c. Developing a Technical Development Plan (TDP) for COINS II this should be ready for coordination in the fall. Several meetings have been held with the COINS Sub-System Managers of other agencies to collect and develop information for the preparation of this TDP.

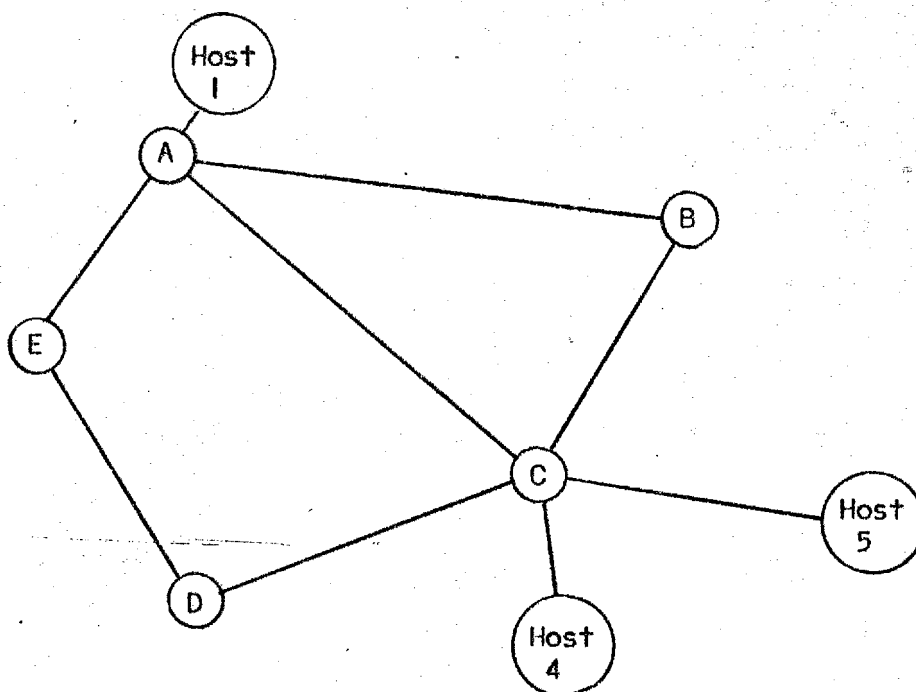
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- o Minimum cost to U S government
- o No single point of failure
- o Expandable
- o Internetting of computers
- o Upgrade the communications support for the users of COINS
- o Capable of being implemented in 12 months



Terminology:

- o IMP: Interface Message Processor
- o TIP: Terminal Interface Processor
- o NCC: Network Control Computer

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